



PATENT
Atty. Docket No.:
NVSS-P01-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mears et al.

Serial No.: 09/914,944

Group Art Unit: 2874

Filed: September 5, 2001

Examiner: N/A

Title: CONFIGURABLE APERIODIC GRATING DEVICE

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a list of documents known to Applicants, their Agent and/or Attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.56. A copy of each document listed is also being submitted herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of the first office action, on the merits, therefore, no fee is due.

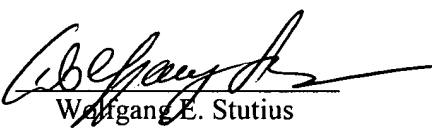
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Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO-1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Nor does it constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
Ropes & Gray

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